

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the Divisional Patent Application of
Application No. 09/842,021
Masahiro Yamada et al

Application No.: Not Yet Assigned

Art Unit: 2873

Filed: January 16, 2004

Examiner: J.M. Schwartz

For: OPTICAL DEVICE, OPTICAL SYSTEM, METHOD OF PRODUCTION OF
SAME, AND MOLD FOR PRODUCTION OF SAME

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

MS PATENT APPLICATION

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08A is a listing of documents known to Applicant cited by or submitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) in parent application No. 09/842,021; filed on April 26, 2001 in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. The relevance of these documents are explained in the parent application. As provided in 37 CFR 1.98(d), copies of the document are not provided since they were previously cited by or submitted to the Patent Office in the parent application.

Since this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in compliance with 37 CFR § 1.97(b) before an initial action, no fee is required in connection with its filing.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* prior art reference against the claims of the present application.

Applicant respectfully requests that the listed documents be considered by the Examiner and formally be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08A be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

Dated: January 16, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By 

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Enclosure(s): Form PTO/SB/08A

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Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	N/A
				Filing Date	January 16, 2004
				First Named Inventor	Masahiro Yamada
				Art Unit	2873
				Examiner Name	J.M. Schwartz
Sheet	1	of	1	Attorney Docket Number	SON-2084/DIV

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
	AA	3,532,038	10/6/70	Rottman	
	AB	5,867,315	2/2/99	Koike et al	
	AC	1,521,563	12/30/24	C. Pflieger	
	AD	6,043,940	3/28/00	Kamiyama et al	
	AE				
	AF				

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
	BA	2000-090469A	3/31/00	Ricoh Co Ltd		ξ
	BB	JP 63 206721A	8/26/88	Olympus Optical Co. Ltd.		x
	BC	WO 97 35811 A	10/2/97	Nippon Sheet Glass Co. Ltd.		ξ
	BD					

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant

¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² See attached Kinds Codes of USPTO Patent Documents at www.uspto.gov or MPEP 901.04. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the application number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

OTHER PRIOR ART – NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
	CA	EPO Search Report 12/01/03	x

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¹ Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). ² Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

Examiner Signature		Date Considered	
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